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FOUNDED BY BARON HIRAYAMA, P.C.
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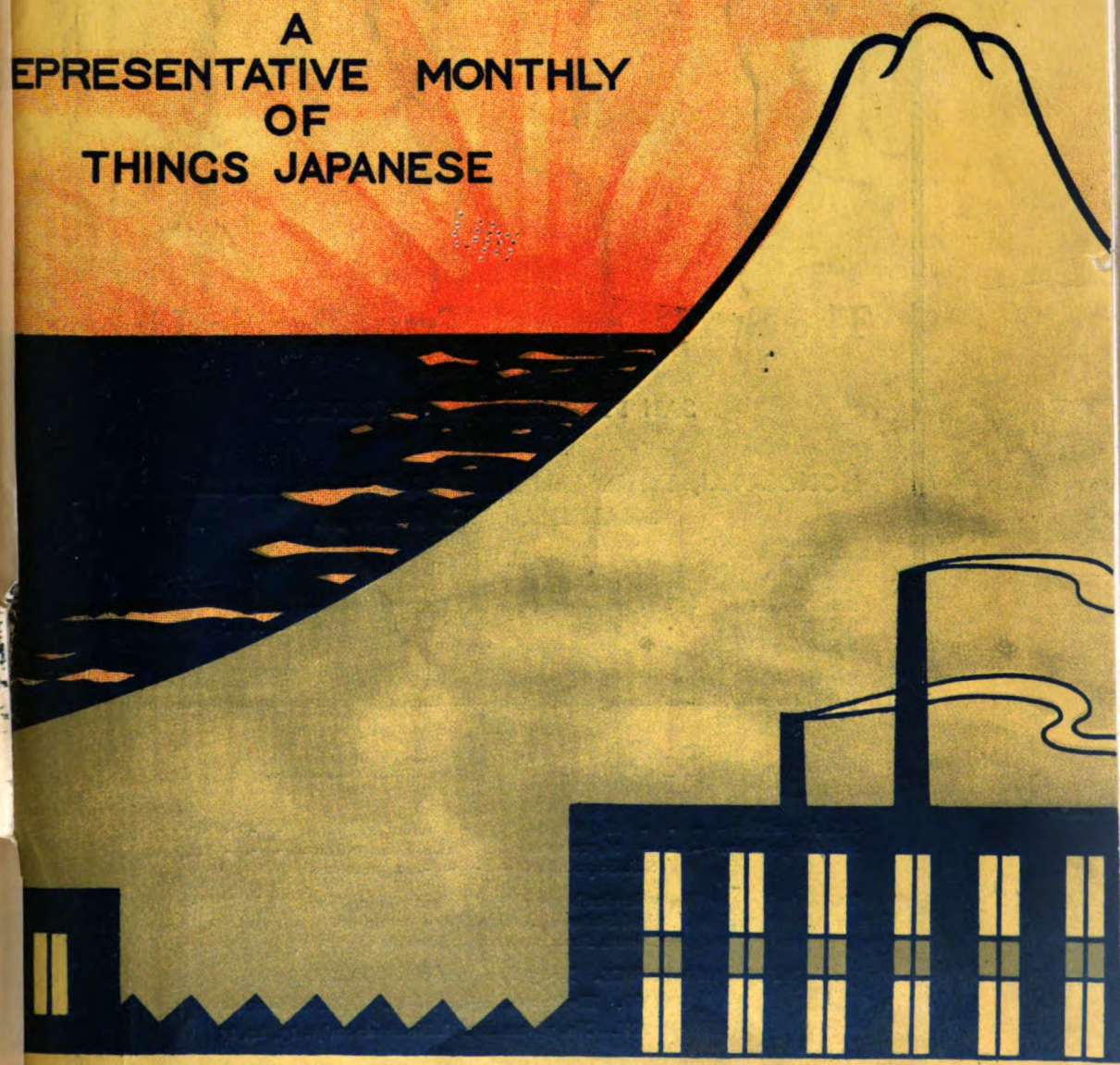
ジヤパン・マガジーン　第十五巻　第一號

A
EPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY
OF
THINGS JAPANESE



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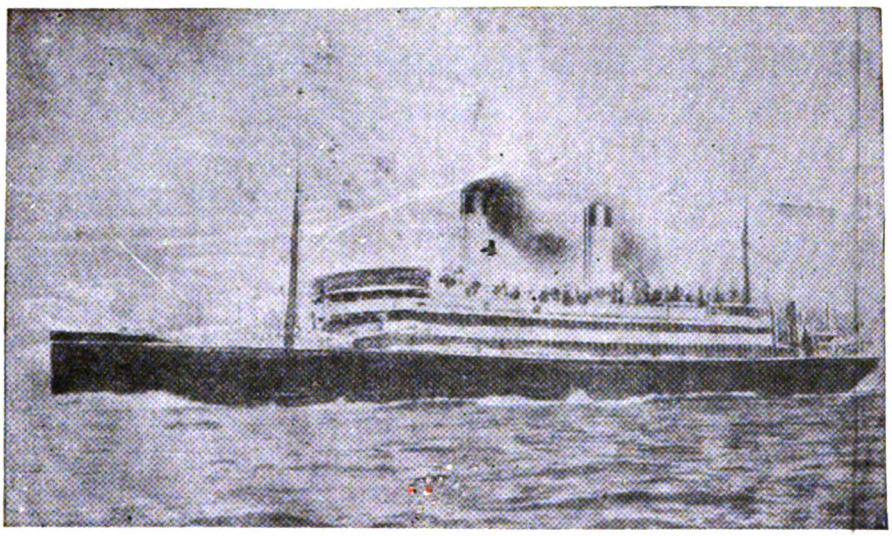

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THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

A REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY OF THINGS JAPANESE

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In the Japanese Empire, (postpaid) per year in advance - *Yen* 5.50

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THE BUDO BRIDGE ON THE UYETSU LINE

This is a long bridge measuring feet in length and spans the Budo River at the foot of Budo Mountain, which lies between Katsuki and Samukawa on the Uyetsu Line. The scenery is very fine. The houses from Samukawa village and near by is the famous steep of "oyashirazu-koshirazu" on the neighbouring sea-shore.

THE WAKIKAWA TUNNEL ON THE UYETSU LINE

This tunnel is 844 feet in length and took two years and four months to build. Great difficulty was experienced in getting a sufficient number of coolies and the construction was accomplished almost entirely by women workers. A tunnel built by women is unique in Japan. The Uyetsu line is a newly opened Government railway, of which an account appears in this number.

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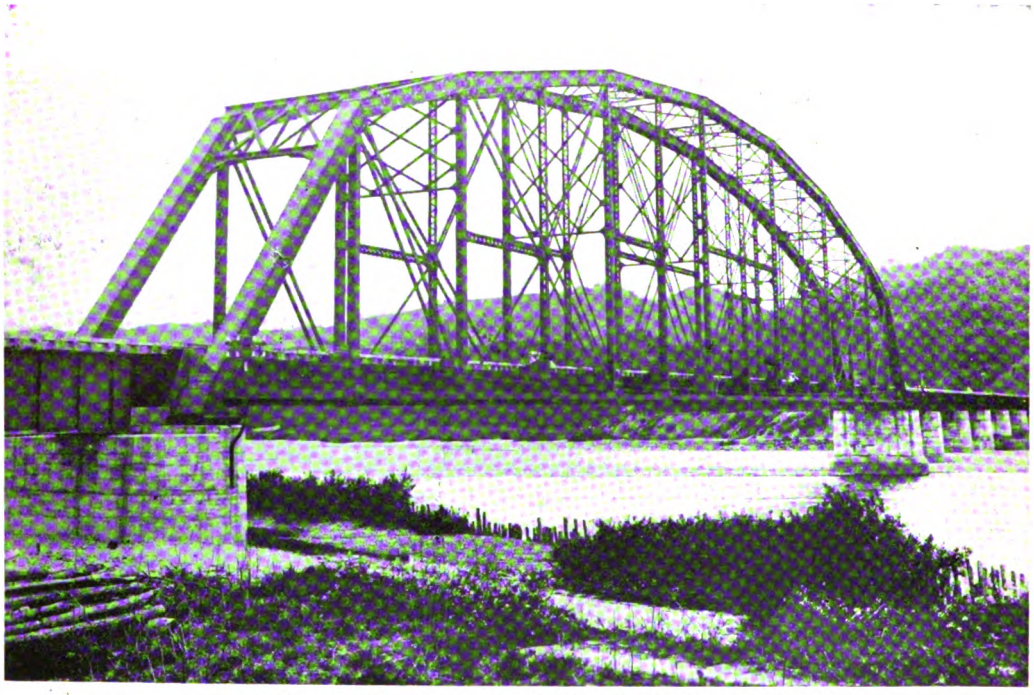
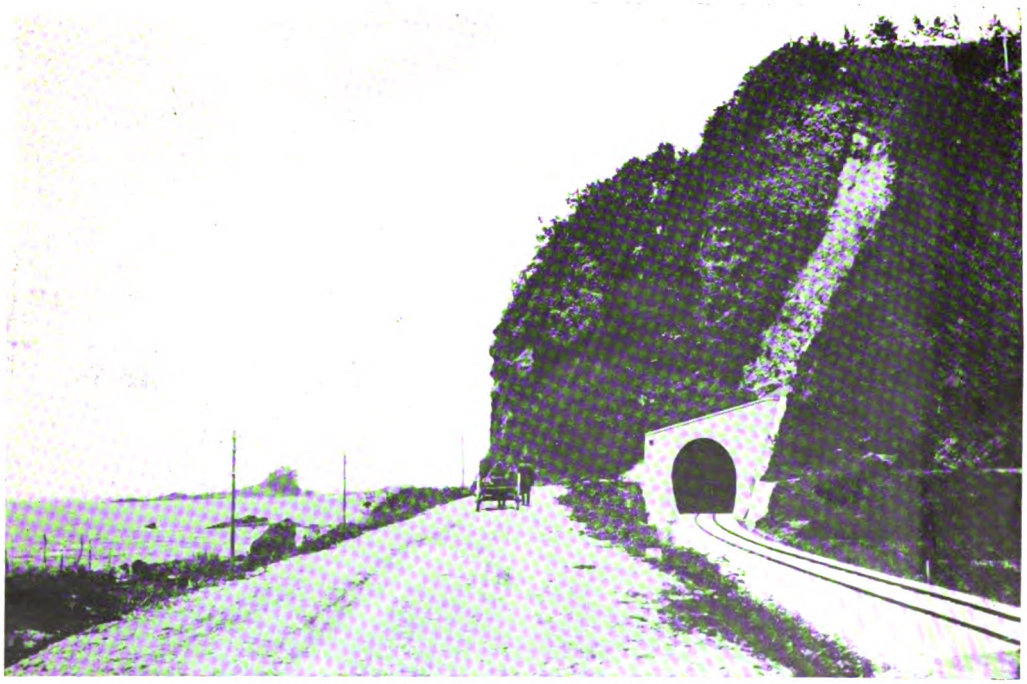


THE SANMEN BRIDGE ON THE UYETSU LINE

This bridge has a length of one mile. Its building was some of the hardest work done on the line. For the Uyetsu line.



THE NAKAHAMA TUNNEL ON THE UYETSU LINE

This tunnel has a length of about 25 miles. The photograph shows its entrance at Murakami. The solitary island on the left is the Benten-iwa, Nezumi-saki. The Uyetsu line is described in the August number.

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THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

VOL. XV SEPTEMBER, 1924 No. I

The Month In Progress

THE EDITOR'S DIARY

AUGUST 21st:—The instructions of the Ministers of the Interior and Finance regarding the retrenchment in local budgets was forwarded to the prefectural governors with the joint signature of the two Ministers.

August 22nd:—The result of the investigations of the Statistical Section of the Tokyo Municipality with reference to the extent of the losses sustained in the earthquake and fire was made public, as follows:—

City of Tokyo	¥ 3,732,228,107
Suburbs of Tokyo...	83,688,698
City of Yokohama	1,180,969,767
Elsewhere in Kanagawa Prefecture	279,366,992
Total Loss of All the Departments of the Cabinet ...	107,229,558
Loss of the Household Department	2,000,000
Prefectural Districts, except Tokyo and Kanagawa ...	126,009,151
Total	5,501,512,273

A mixed train on the Uyetsu Line after having left Sakata was derailed between Atsumi and Nedzu-ga-seki at about 3 p.m., on account of the track being destroyed by a storm, and one locomotive and six freight cars fell into the sea, with a number of casualties. The line is a new one, opened on the 31st July.

August 24th:—In Kagawa, Okayama, Shimane, and most recently in Toyama and Ishikawa Prefectures, especially in the first named prefecture, narcotic phrenitis has been very virulent, with a high death-rate. Experts have been despatched to those districts by the Hygenic Bureau of the Home Department.

August 27th:—Viscount Ishii, Japanese Ambassador to France; Mr. Adachi, Japanese Ambassador to Belgium; and Mr. Matsuda, Japanese Minister to Switzerland, were appointed Japanese representatives at the Fifth Assembly of the League of Nations at Geneva, Switzerland.

August 31st:—According to a report published by the Central Meteorological Observatory, the earthquakes perceptible to human beings from September 1st last year to August 31st this year numbered 1,441 in Tokyo and 2,756 throughout the country, 7 and a half per day average.

September 1st:—This being the first anniversary of the great earthquake and fire of last year, the Tokyo people observed the day by eating unhulled-rice as they did in the days of the disaster. At 11.58 A.M., when the shock occurred last year all the temples in the city tolled their bells, the factories' whistles sounded

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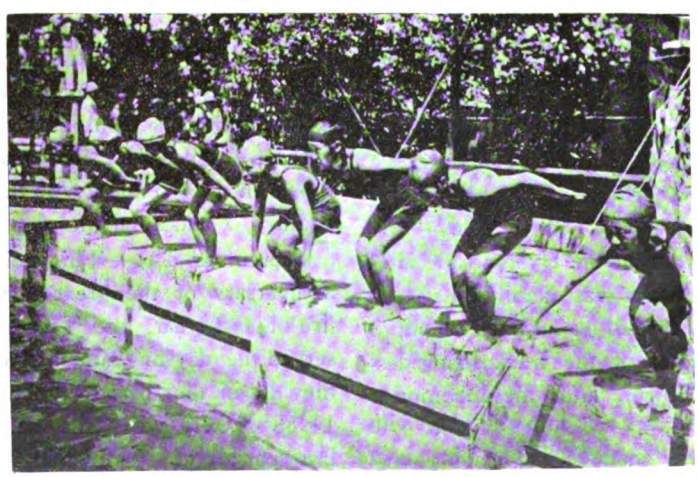
and the tramcars stopped for a minute. Services for the victims were held at the leading temples; especially at the charnel erected on the site of the military clothing department, Honjo, where over 32,000 persons were killed by the fire on the day of the catastrophe, a service was held in memory of the dead. The mourners who worshipped at the charnel numbered about 500,000 people up to noon. At the Zojoji Temple in Shiba Park and the Sensoji in Asakusa Park memorial services attracted many. The Prince Regent graciously made inquiry about the present state of the restoration program for the devastated area, and Mr. Wakatsuki, Minister of the Interior proceeded to the Akasaka Palace at 10 a. m. and was granted an audience by the Regert to whom he reported in detail the progress of the restoration work.

At about 6 p. m. General G. Fukuda, while on his way to the Chosenji Temple where a lecture meeting in memory of the catastrophe at which he was one of the lecturers, was to be held, had just got out of his motor in front of the Enrakuken Restaurant, Hongo, resting-place for the lecturers, when he was shot at in the back by would-be assassin, but he was not injuned, The offeneer was arrested on the spot and found to be a socialist.

He confessed that he attempted to kill the genersl to take revenge in connexion with the death of Osugi, one of his comrades, on the occasion of last year's disaster, for which he thought General Fukuda was responsible as Commander enforcing Martial Law in the Kanto District.

September 5th:—Owing to the defeat of the candidate he recommended for Director of the Electric Bureau of the Tokyo Municipality, in the Tokio Municipal Council, Mr. H. Nagata, Mayor of Tokyo, tendered his resignation to the Governor of Tokyo Prefecture, also those of tne three deputy mayors.

September 6th:—At a little past 9 a.m. Sub-Lieutenant Tanno of the Navy, a Tenth Course student of the Kagamigaura Hydroplane Corpe, fell from a height of 50 meters to the water and was seriously wounded. The machine was smashed.



Girls Swimming in the Shiba Pool, Tokyo

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Ambassador Mr. Hanihara Coming Back from America and His Family Welcoming Him

September 7th:—The extent of the damages caused by the storm in Northern Formosa was larger than imagined. According to various reports there were casualties of over three hundred, and more than seventeen thousand houses were wrecked.

September 12th:—At 7:30 a.m. a launch and a vedette-boat both belonging to the battleship Nagato came into collision in the Yokosuka Naval Port. The launch sank immediately, and seventeen were drowned.

A express train for Tokyo was approaching Kusatsu-machi, in Hiroshima Prefecture, on the Sanyo line, on its way to Hiroshima when it ran into a landslide caused by a storm. The locomotive, mail car and one passenger-coach were upset, which caused seventy casualties.

September 13th:—Narcotic phrentis invaded Tokyo. According to the investigation by the Medical Section of the Metropolitan Police, there were ten cases up to to day.

A scout-aeroplane of the 6th battalion of the Flying Corps at Heijo, Korea, crashed at Heiko, while engaged in maneuvers.

Sergeant Ebine, pilot, and Lieutenant Moriwaki observers were killed. They are the first victims since the establishment of the flying corps in Korea.

Interview given to the Press by Mr. Debuchi, Director of the Asiatic Bureau

Foreign Office,

September 22, 1924.

In a speech delivered before the Imperial Diet in its last session, the Foreign Minister explicity stated that Japan has adopted and will follow a policy of absolute

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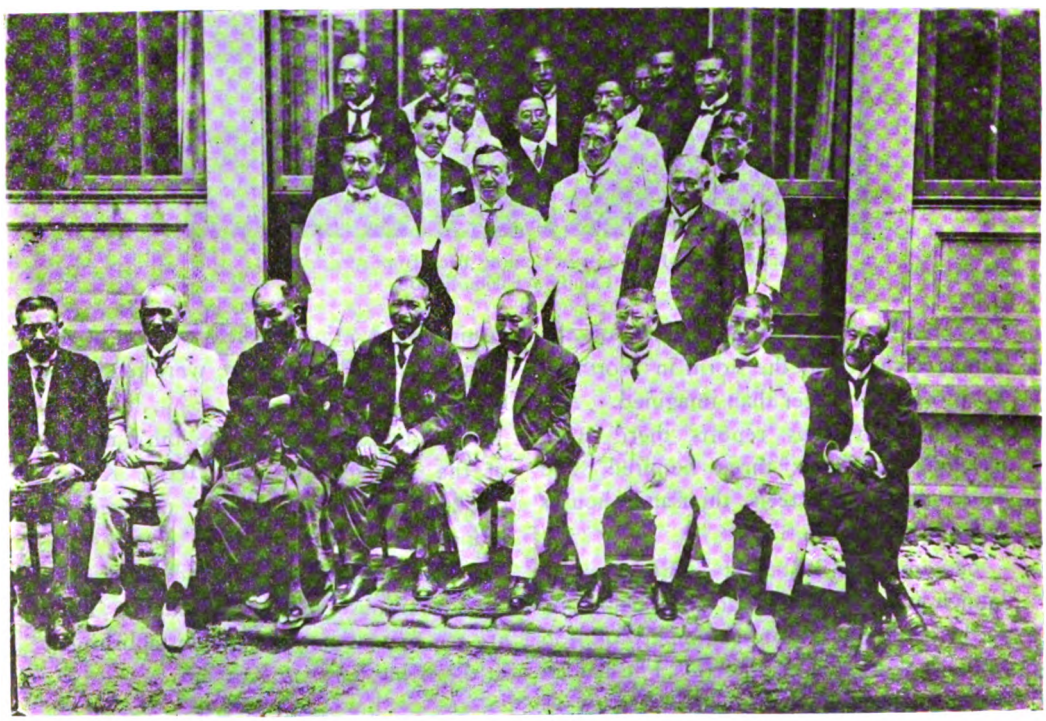
non-interference in the internal affairs of China. It is therefore superfluous to say that the Japanese Government will strictly adhere to this policy of non-intervention in the present civil war and will assume an attitude of impartiality toward any of the warring parties.

Although reports to the effect that some of the Powers are contemplating interfering in the domestic affairs of China at this juncture or that some are designing to give help to the Chihli party are circulated from time to time, they are purely rumours deserving of no credence. The Japanese Government deeply regret that the present disturbance has occurred in China and cannot help hoping that the Chinese authorities and people will fully realize the gravity of the situation and unite their best efforts speedily to put an end to the internecine war and to restore peace and order in their territory.



Parliamentary Undersecretaries Just Appointed in Japan

HOT SPRING

A man came to Yumoto (famous for it hot springs) in Hakone, and immediately asked the clerk of the hotel if the bath was ready.

Clerk: "As this is a hot-spring hotel, we don't prepare any hot bath."

Guest: "So much the better. Can I take it right away?"

Clerk: "Yes, Sir, the hot spring is always ready."

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The Kato Cabinet and Public Opinion

The Kiyoura Cabinet resigned en bloc on June 7th as had been expected. On that day, the Premier, Viscount Kiyoura, carrying his cabinet's resignation, repaired to the Akasaka Imperial Palace, and presented them to the Prince Regent. His Highness wished him and his cabinet to remain in office until further notice. He then attended the last conference of his Cabinet. The Cabinet was formed in January last and was in powor only for six months, during which nothing worthy of note was achieved by it, except the consummation of the Imperial wedding and the general election.

This short life of the Ministry was expected by the public from the very beginning. All the leading parties opposed it on the ground that a nonparty Cabinet is against the principle of the Constitution. These parties, previously in opposition to each other, joined in their efforts to destroy the Kiyoura Cabinet, except the Seiyu-honto, which supported the Ministry against the other three "constitution protecting" parties, as compared with which it was of little importance. With such a small pro-Government party, the Kiyoura Cabinet saw the impossibility of getting through the barrier of the next session of the Imperial Diet, but by dissolving it hoped to get more members for the pro-Government party at a general election. It dissolved the Diet under the pretext that only the insincer members opposed the Government and their opposition did not represent national opinion. On January 30th, there was great tension in the lower house before opening, and as soon as it was opened, it was thrown into such confusion that the Chairman had to announce a recess. During the recess, an Imperial order was received for its dissolution, before the Premier spoke on his administrative policy. Thus, the Kiyoura Cabinet had to ask the people their opinion of the advisability or inadvisability of its remaining in office by a general election.

Soon after the formation of the Kiyoura Ministry, the Seiyu party, the biggest of all the political parties, exposed its long-standing internal troubles, which culminated in the retirement of many members, who organized a now party, the Seiyu-Honto. It was on this new party that the Kiyoura Cabinet relied in dissolving the Diet and causing a general election, for it wished to have it as the first party supporting it in the next session of the Diet. The general election turned out contary to its desire, and this had a result of hastening the cabinet's collapse. The Premier considered seriously the steps to be adopted and had to decide to retire after the Imperial banquets in celebration of the Crown Prince's wedding.

Accordingly, the Cabinet presented its resignation on the 7th after which Viscount Kiyoura spoke to the pressmen substantially as follows:—

"As you may be aware, we have tendered our resignations. I do not think it necessary to speak of the reason for our resignation, but we believe the present the most proper time to step out".

Upon receiving the Cobinet's resignation the Prince Regent summoned the Keeper, of the Privy Seal Count Hirata and sent upon consultation with him the Grand Chamberlain to the Emperor, Count Tokugawa, to Kyoto to ask Marquis Saionji's opinion about the formation of the succeeding Ministry. The Count visited the Marquis on the 8th and came back to

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Tokyo on the 9th, when he proceeded to the Akasaka Palace and stated the details of his interview with the Marquis. At 10.40 A. M. that day, Viscount Iriye, the Grand Chramberlain to the Crown Prince visited Viscount Kato, the leader of the Kensei-kai, and brought to him an Imperial message for an audience. The Viscount repaired to the Akasaka Palace at 11.30 A. M. and the Prince Regent ordered him to form a new Cabinet. He retired from the palace at 11.40 A. M. and visited Mr. K. Takahashi, the leader of the Seiyu Party, and Mr. T. Inukai, the leader of the Kakushin Club, which whom he exchanged views on the fundamental policy of Cabinet making and other questions, in compliance with their previous agreement to co-operate energetically for the carrying out of the great spirit of the Constitution. Viscount Kato was anxious to organize a new Cabinet based on the three political parties aiming at a revision of the election law, re-adjusting and reforming the finanrial administration and upholding official discipline. He asked the two political leaders to join him as Cabinet members. The two supported the above policies, but could not answer before carefully considering the parties' respective standpoints. After a series of interviews, however, they decided to join the Cabinet in order to stabilize the political situation, and to meet the Imperial wishes without regard to the individual interests of the political parties led by them.

Mr. Takahashi was once Premier. His decision to enter the Cabinet as an ordinary Minister for the sake of the three associated parties and in utter disregard of his personal interests was generally praised by the public. A coalition Cabinet was thus formed with the following members:—

Viscount K. Kato, Prime Minister.
Baron K. Shidehara, Minister of Foreign Affairs.
R. Wakatsuki, Minister of Home Affairs.
Y. Hamaguchi, Minister of Finance.
Lieutenant-General Ugaki, Minister of Army.
Admiral Takarabe, Minister of Navy.
S. Yokota, Minister of Justice.
R. Okada, Minister of Education.
K. Takahashi, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.
T. Inukai, Minister of Communications.
Dr. M. Sengoku, Minister of Railways.

On the 11th, Viscount Kato repaired to the Akasaka Palace and replied to the Prince Regent acceting the Imperial mandate to form a Ministry. He submitted his list of Ministers, and it was approved by the Regent. The Viscount left the Palace at 10.15 A. M. and again proceeded there with his colleagues at 1.30 P.M. They were received in audience by the Prince Regent, after which the ceremony of the installation of the ministry was held. At the same time, the resignation of the preceding Cabinet was accepted.

The Premier Viscount Kato, is the leader of the Kensei-kai, which is one of the two largest political parties in Japan, and has been the most formidable rival of the Seiyu-kai, the other big party, for many years. The latter has been more powerful than the former in the Diet where it wielded power as a pro-Government and majority party over the other parties. Viscount Kato has been out of the Government since he resigned the portfolio of foreign affairs in 1915. On the 11th, he spoke at an extraordinary general meeting of the Kensei-kai. He said he was glad that Mr. Takahashi, the leader of the Seiyu-kai, had willingly accepted his desire to join the Cabinet as an ordinary member without consideration of the foct that he onec held the premiership. He also thanked Mr. Inukai for his consent to co-operate with him.

Mr. Takahashi and Mt. Inukai published a statement in joining the Kato ministry, in which they pointed out that Viscount Kato's receipt of the Imperial mandate to form a Ministry illustrated the people's anxiety to stabilize the political situation by forming a party Cabinet based on the Constitution and they decided to join it as ministers in acceptance of the Viscount's proposal and in disregard of trifling objections that stood against

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the step, believing it their duty to make their utmost exertions for improving parliamentary politics and reforming general administrative affairs, now that the association of the three political parties had brought about the political change. They were resolved to co-operate sincerely for the sake the country.

From this statement, it may be seen that the two party leaders sacrificed their individual interests in the cause of the constitution and to save the situation.

The Ministry was formed of splendid material and unexpectedly quickly and has been supported by the public in all directions.

To show how the Cabinet is thought of by prominent statesmen, we quote two representative views, one of Dr. Mizuno, the Home Minister in the Kiyoura Cabinet, and that of Baron Yamamoto, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce in the Takahashi Ministry.

It is well that the Kato Cabinet was formed quickly, says Dr. Mizuno. All its members are suitable for their posts. Viscount Kato is strongly determined. It is but a natural consequence of the joining of the three parties for the protection of the Constitution that Mr. Inukai and Mr. Takahashi took seats in the Cabinet, which is a proper step for making the triple alliance worthy of the name and object. It is especially praise-worthy that Mr. Takahashi, who was once at the head of the Cabinet, is content with a comparatively unimportant portfolio under Viscount Kato, setting greater value on the association of the three parties. Turning to Mr. Wakatsuki, Dr. Mizuno states that he, who is one of his school mates, will successfully fill his position, as he is very considerate snd does not do anything beyond reasonable limits. Dr. Okada is particularly fitted for the portfolio of Education. It is interesting that he has been placed in the position as a non-party man. The question is how the three associated parties. which have hitherto differed from each other in principles and views on important national policies, can reconcile their differences. A political party must be held responsible for its policies. In the election law revision question, for instance, the Kensei-kai led by Viscount Kato and the Kakushin Club led by Mr. Inukai agreed in advocating universal suffrage to be carried out at once without conditions, while the Seiyu-kai led by Mr. Takahashi has been opposed to it. In the land tax question, the Seiyu-kai and the Kakushin Club advocated the transfer of the tax to local revenue instead of the state revenue while the Kensei-kai was against it.

It will be wached wath interest how the Ministry can find means of reconciling these divergent views on important question. As to the life of the Ministry, Dr. Mizuno says it depends on the determination of the three party leaders. He only hopes that the Minissry will carry out all the important things hitherto advocated by the parties, for frequent changes of the political situation, as recently, are not the way to put important policies satisfactorily into practice, however ambitious the programs may be.

The political situation will be stabilized at least temporarily by the formation of the coalition Ministry, says Baron Yamamoto. Viscount Kato may be sympathized with, however, for his troubles in leading the Cabinet. It is to be doubted if he fancied at first his present cabinet members. He thinks there must have been much negotiation before the selections were concluded. At least, he stood firmly for the appointment of Mr. Wakatsuki and Mr. Hamaguchi to the portfolios of Home Affairs and Finance respetively, as it had been previously expected that he would not allow these particularly important positions to be filled by other party or nonparty men. It is really satisfactory, Baron Yamamoto notes, that he gave to Mr. Wakatsuki, who is noted for his cool head, and for details, a position, which is a key to the future extension of his party strength, and that Mr. Hamaguchi is entrusted with the great task of thoroughly re-adjusting the state finances and making their foundation solid.

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Japanese Child Games

SOME time ago we published a description of a number of the most favored games of Japanese children. This article tells of others,

The Fox.

Children make a circle by joining hands and going round, singing repeatedly.

"How beautiful this year's peonies are! Let us pick our ears. *Suppon-pon!*

When they sing "let us pick our ears," they disengage their hands and pretend to pick their ears. While they utter *suppon-pon*, they rub their hands and make a gesture of dancing. Then, they again join hands and sing the song. At the end of the second singing the fox makes its appearance and approaches the circle.

"I say, won't let you join?" asks the fox.

"No,!" reply the singers.

"Why?" inquires the fox.

"Because you have a tail," reply the singers.

"I'll cut off my tail," says the fox.

"We do not like the blood," say the singers.

"It will be wiped away," says the fox.

"We do not like the wound," say the singers.

"If you do not allow me to join, you, I'll strike you with a stick when you are passing my house," says the fox.

"You may join then," say the singers.

The fox joins hands and goes round with the others, singing once more the song. The fox then walks out of the circle and says, "It is now time to go and take lunch."

"What is your relish?" ask the girls.

"A live snake," answers the fox.

As the fox is going back with the answer, the girls look after it and sing in chorus, "You are a fox only in form."

"Do you mean me?" asks the fox as it turns round and looks the company.

"No," answer the girls.

The fox goes forward again, when the girls sing once more, "You are a fox only in form."

The fox again turns back and asks the same thing.

The girls reply in the negative.

No sooner does the fox go forward again than the girls sing, "You are a fox only in form."

"I?" asks the fox.

This time, the girls answer "yes."

The fox gets angry and pursues the girls who run away at top speed. It catches one, who must be the fox next. The Japanese have a superstition of foxes changing themselves into human beings, and the above game concerns that superstition. The centre of interest of the game is that the girls always feel eerie about the fox and uneasy at the danger of being caught. This game is played chiefly by girls.

Flower Naming.

This is an indoor amusement. Several boys or girls sit in a circle. One of them holds a lighted incense-stick and names a flower he remembers, when he hands the Incense stick over to the one at his right, saying, for instance, "Plum blossoms" or "Cherry blossoms." The one receiving the incense-stick gives another flower name, and delivers the stick to the one at his right. All name flowers or blossoms in turn.

One condition is that no flower should be mentioned more than once. After a

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number of turns, the children not remembering so many names of flowers and blossoms become unable to tell them straight off and begin to be flurried. In the meantime, the incense-stick is burning short so as to be scarcely held in the fingers. The one who cannot name a flower before the stick burns out is obliged to drop it and is the loser. Sometimes the penalty of singing a song is imposed.

Succession of Stories.

This game requires several children. They sit round a room. The tagger is decided by mora. He holds a towel and begins an extemporaneous story.

"There was a spring in distant mountains" the speaker begins, "It was clear and smooth as a mirror. . . ."

At this he throws the towel to one of the players. The latter receiving the towel succeeds to the story and continues it.

The centre of interest in this game lies in too much absorption in another's story to notice the towel thrown at oneself or too much anxiety about the possibility of the towel being thrown at oneself to carefully listen to another's story and to take over that story and continue it instantaneously on receipt of the towel.

The Border Footed or not Footed.

This is an active indoor game. It is played by two or more children. The tagger may stand or sit out of the line of the other players, who stand beside the black bordor of the "tatami" (mat) with their hands on the waist and their right feet a little before their body and on the mat border, as if they were dancing.

The tagger sings, "The border is footed; the border is not footed. The border is footed; the border is not footed."

The standing players must put their right feet on or off the border as the song orders. The orders are not always regular. Sometimes, he sings repeatedly, "The border is footed;" ordering the players to simply foot the border; and othertimes he gives the contrary order. He also repeats footing five times and then suddenly changes his order into "not footed." It is necessary for the players to listen carefully to these orders and act exactly as ordered. One failing to obey the command in bewilderment and being discovered by the tagger serves as the next tagger.

"Ashi-Mekura" (Foot-Blind).

This may be played in or out of a room. When played outdoors, it is done within drawn lines. The more players the more exciting the play is. There are two taggers. One of them is blind folded with a towel and serves as a blind man. He takes on his back another tagger, who carries a duster. He runs after the other players, who run about to avoid him. If he approaches one, the tagger on his back strikes the latter on his back with the duster. This latter becomes a tagger. Another one must be struck to take the place of the pair of taggers. A necessary condition in this game is that the tagger on the back of the other tagger should not utter anything to direct the latter in pursuit of the running players.

The centre of interest is that the tagger, who is not blindfolded is vexed at the course of the blindfolded one, on whose back he is carried, in directions contrary to the fleeing ones, while he is impatient to strike them with his duster. The fleeing ones run about in silence, lest their laughter or cries should give a clue to the blindbolded tagger.

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The "Sayo-Ken" and "Tsunbo-Ken" (the Yes-"Ken" and Deaf-"Ken."

These are two kinds of *ken* (mora) of a similar nature. The game is played by two persons, and the more spectators the more interesting it is.

The *Sayo-ken* is a game of questions and answers, and if one replies in the affirmative, he will lose. Very palpable questions are put purposely to get a reply of *sayo* (yes).

"Are you Hirayama by name?" one questions.

"No. I think I am Murata by name," another replies.

"Your father is older than you?" one asks.

"No. He is not. He is younger thon me," another replies.

"When it rains, the weather is bad?" one questions.

"No. I don't think so. It is fine, when rain falls," another answers.

"I feel warmer in the summer than in the winter," one says.

"No. I do not feel so. It is colder in the summer than in the winter," another contradicts.

These are a few instances. The necessary condition is that one should not reply simply "no," but some more words must be added. This condition is to draw the answerer into saying "yes" instead of "no" in uttering something more than "no."

The *tsunbo-ken* is a game of conversation by two persons. One must tell in reply a thing quite unconnected with the other's question and of similar length. To give a few examples, "It is fine to-day," one says. "Yes, the horse has a long face," the other replies.

"There was an earthquake shock last evening. Do you know it?" one asks.

"Yes. Baked potatoes are very nice," the other replies.

"Is it a crow or a kite that is flying over there?" another questions.

"I have stomach trouble," another answers.

If the following reply is given to a question, the answerer is considered as losing the game, for he has been evidently drawn into the question.

"Is it a crow or a kite that is flying over there?" one questions.

"The aeroplane flies pretty high up," another answers.

The "Oden-ya."

Oden is a kind of Japanese popular food. It contains several kinds of fish and vegetable food such as *hanpen* (fish minced and steamed in a mixture with *yama-no-imo* (yam), *chikuwa* (fish minced and steamed and not mixed with *yamano-imo*), "*konnyaku* (kneaded devil's tongue root), *yaki-dofu* (broiled beancurd), *ganmodoki* (bean-curd fried with condiments), potatoes, erc., which are cooked in a soup of soy, after which they are skewered and eaten, usually with mustard. The seller of *oden* is called *oden-ya*.

Here boys and girls imitate this familiar food hawking in their play. It is an outdoor game by at least 6 or 7 children.

There are two taggers chosen at first. One hawks *oden* and another buys, the rest forming the *hanpen*, *chikuwa*, *konnyaku*, *yaki-dofu*, *ganmodoki* and potatoes respectively. The *oden-ya* arranges in a line these foods beside him, waiting for one coming to buy them, Presently, there appears a buyer (the other tagger).

Buyer. I want *oden*, Odenya-san.

Oden-ya. Thank you for your patronage. What kind of *oden* do you want?

Buyer. Give me a piece of *hanpen*.

Oden-ya. All right, Sir. Here is *hanpen*.

So saying, the *oden-ya* delivers to the buyer *hanpen* (a child standing by him), and the buyer goes out with him.

The buyer (coming again). Have you *konnyaku?*

Oden-ya. Yes, Sir. Here is *konnyaku*. Thank you.

Konnyaku (another child) is taken to the side of the buyer.

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Buyer. I want a piece of potato.

Oden-ya. Thank you. Here is a potato.

Potato (still another child) goes to the buyer.

The buyer may purchase all, but usually, he purchases about one half.

Mustard will be given, the *Oden-ya* says.

As he says so, he rubs the children on the head and back or tickles them under the arms.

The *Oden-ya* applies mustard to a few and purposely leaves one or two children without it, saying, Oh! the mustard is finished. I musi go and buy it.

The buyer goes with him. When the two taggers are a distance off the *oden*, those sold and not sold run away.

Seeing this, the *Oden-ya* and his buyer cry out, O dear! *Oden* have run away. They run after them and at last catch two. who are to succeed them as the *Oden-ya* and his buyer.

The "Gyochoboku" (Fish, Birds and Trees).

This is an indoor game with two sitting face to face, and there are a few others seeing the game and waiting for their turn to play.

A. I'll speak, speak.

B. Do you speak, speak?

A. I'll speak, speak.

B. Do you speak, speak? What is the tree?

A. A pine-tree.

B. Do you speak, speak? What is the bird?

A. Crane.

B. Do you speak, speak? What is the fish?

A. A halibut.

A suddenly inquires of B about one of fish, birds or trees. A must reply properply at once. B inquires only about trees or fish in order to bewilder the dialogist in reply. If A expecting an inquiry about a bird, speaks of a heron, while B wants a reply to his inquiry about a fish, he is lost. The questions and answers are kept up until either party is beaten. When the answerer is correct in reply to all questions put by B, the latter is deemed beaten. At each question and answer, A and B repeat the words, "I'll speak" and "Do you speak."

The "Shishi-Asobi" (Lion).

The lion dance is a street performance existing since the Yedo period. One with a wooden gold painted lion's mask dances funnily to a flute and big and small drums. The dancer goes about in the streets in the New Year's holidays and on festival days.

This game is an imitation of the dance. It is best to have more than 4 or 5 players. A tagger is chosen at first, and the rest act as musicians, who gesture as if they were actually playing on musical instruments. They sit round and look serious, which is funny to see.

The tagger acts the part of the dancer. He does not wear the mask and simply imitates it by folding the palms, which are opened and closed as if the lion's mask opened and closed its mouth.

The tagger gestures funnily as the other players, say "Where is the lion?" . . . "Where is the lion?" Suddenly, he imitates quickly one of the musical instruments in concert. He mimics for instance, one pretending to beat a drum. The latter instantly stops beating and folds the palms in imitation of the lion's mouth, saying repeatedly. "Where is the lion?" He watches a chance for mimicing the gestures of another performer, and suddenly mimics it, say, *samisen* playing, when the latter player instantly begins the gestures of the dancer.

One, who is too much given up to his own gestures ie the performance to take quick notice of his being imitated, has the worst of it and pays a penalty by singing a song

This game is even played by adults at banquets and on other occasions. At a banquet, the loser is forced to drain a cup as penalty.

But this last game is nearly extinct tonay. It was most fashionable in the Yedo period and has been given here as an example of Yedo customs.

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A General Survey of Japan's Foreign Trade

AFTER a series of excesses of imports over exports since January, the foreign trade of Japan took a favourable tendency in August, when the exports amounted to 176,000,000 yen and the imports to 142,000,000 yen, showing the balance of 34,000,000 yen in favour of exports. This was caused principally, however, by a great diminution in imports, although it was accounted for in part by an increase in exports. The imports reached the value of 311,000,000 yen in March, but the amount fell off to 152,-000,000 yen in July. In August, the figure lost further by 10,000,000 yen, when compared with July. On the other hand, the exports gained 40,000,000 yen.

The following table shows the value of exports and imports since January :—

In Thousands of Yen.

Month.	Exports.	Imports.	Excess of Im. over Ex. or Ex. over Im.
January	110,773	214,210	108.477 Im.
February ...	105,366	294,114	188,748 „
March	120,457	311,429	190,972 „
April	148,576	247,618	99,042 „
May	176,683	223,623	46,938 „
June	145,603	176,123	32,520 „
July	136,637	152,945	16,308 „
August	176,427	142,100	34,327 Ex.
Total	1,121,372	1,769,632	648,060 Im.
Inc. over 1923	151,990	345,068	193,078

The above decrease in the import trade was caused mainly by a heavy fall in yen exchange in the international market, a decrease in the purchasing capacity of the yen and the depreciation of commodities. Of the most valuable goods decreased on the import side lumber and iron were at the head of the list. Lumber once reached the value of 15,000,000 or 17,-000,000 yen, but recently decreased to 6,000,000 or 7,000,000 yen, and iron diminished at the same time from 25,-000,000 or 27,000,000 yen to 11,000,-000 yen. The principal factor in the excess of exports over imports in August was an increase in the exportation of raw silk. In June and July, the latter amounted to 42,000,000 yen, and it rose to 72,000,000 yen in August. This increase takes up the larger proportion of the increment of the total export trade in August over July, no other articles sharing prominently in the increase. As compared with the same interval, 1923, the raw silk exported during the first eight months of this year lost 3,000,000 yen, for it amounted to 378,000,000 yen, while cottn yarns gained 27,000,-000 yen, and cotton fabrics 71,000,000 yen over last year. It may be seen, therefore, that the increase of 151,000,000 yen of the export trade for the first eight months of this year over the corresponding period, 1923 was principally on account of the above three articles and especially cotton yarns and cotton fabrics and not raw silk. These cotton goods grew mainly owing to a great increase in Chinese requirements, although it is doubtful whether the Chinese demand will hereafter be as large as before, seeing that war is again being waged in that country, involving Shanghai, the central market. If the Chinese demand is lost on that account, another excess of exports over imports would be very unlikely unless there is sufficient increase in the exportation of war silk to compensate for the loss. Although raw silk decreased in value in the total for the first eight months, yet it increased in quantity, for shipments to America amounted to 192,000 bales as against 175,000 bales in 1923 and those to Europe to 23,800 balos as against 3,900 bales in 1933. America is the country on whose demand we must count for an increase in the future demand for raw silk, in order to maintain a good excess of exports over imports. The Chinese war, it is hoped will occasion an increase in the world's demand for Japanese raw silk, the supply of which from the interior of China is being rendered impossible by the conflict.

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The Development of Architecture in Japan

From a Lecture by Mr. Chuta Itoh, "Kogaku-hakushi"

ARCHITECTURE is to be compared to a human body. As a man is born of his father and mother, so is architecture produced by the country and its people; with the land as its mother and the people, its father. For this reason, Japanese architecture is the offspring of the people and land of Japan; at the very moment of its birth it assumed a variety it inherited from its mother's constitution as well as its father's temperament. Thus, grown up to some extent, architecture never loses its special variety.

This immutable principle is to be applied to Japanese architecture. No sooner had it been born than Japanese architecture adopted the architectural art of San-Han (Korea in olden times) as its model. This period may be compared to the kindergarten age in man. Subsequently Japanese architecture was influenced by the Tung Dynasty of China, which may be described as the elementary school age in its course of development. During this period Japanese architecture made considerable progress, which, although it may be attributed to a large extent to the excellent mental and muscular talent of the Japanese people was nevertheless due to the conspiciously developed stage in which was found the Tung architecture in those days.

Tung was, indeed, the foremost civilised country in the world during those days. No wonder that the architectural field of Japan, whose master of the art was Tung, realised striking development. In succession to Tung, the three dynasties, Tsung, Yuan, and Ming, followed one another in China, and Japan continued to learn from those dynasties in regard to architecture. When the architectural art of San-Han was first introduced to Japan, she only copied the Korean architecture, in absolute imitation, but after the importation of the Tung architecture they learned to make a rigid choice among the Chinese productions in accordance with their own taste and discretion, adding some originalities to them. During the Tsung, Yuan and Ming Dynasties Japanese architecture attained such a stage of development that it succeeded in forming its originality by adopting and rejecting what it succeeded in forming its originality by adopting and rejecting what it had imported from China. In short, Japanese architecture has up to present repeated imitation and assimilation or Japanisation of foreign arts of building.

It was in the Meiji Era that the master of Japanese architecture was all of a sudden altered; Japan abanboned China, her former master, of architecture, and Europe and America in stead. The Japanese architectural field fell into a state of consternation, because the European and American architecture it had newly adopted was fundamentally different from that of San-Han or China, but it got accustomed to the new art gradually. By introducing the European and American art of architecture into her country, Japan has now become a well stout and brought up youth. However, just as adolescence is a dangerous stage in the life of a human being, so is the adolescent age of architecture dangerous and buoyant to Japan. How to get through this dangerous period safely is a question to which attention should be paid.

Above is an cutline of the history of the development of Japanese architecture. It is of much interest to trace back the progress of the introduction of European and American architecture at the dawn of the Meiji Era to the present day.

In the early part of Meiji when European architecture was for the first time

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imported into Japan, the people were scarcelyable to use discretion in adopting it, hecause the introduction was too abrupt. They could do nothing but blindly imitate the European fashions. This period which stretched between the first year of the Meiji Era and the 15-16th year I call the Age of Transplantation of Foreign Architecture. It was, indeed, in this age that foreign architects who came to Japan showed her people specimens of Western buildings by erecting them, when the Japanese people were far from being able to build foreign style houses. Those specimens, of foreign buildings are to be found in the Shimbashi Station, one of the oldest, being built in 1872, which was destroyed by last year's catastrophe; the Yushu-kan Military Museum, also a victim of the earthquake and fire; the Kazoku-kaikan (Peers' Club); the principal building of the Uyeno Musuem; the law and literature college buildings of the Tokyo Imperial University, and other imposing buildings. This period may be described as the First Age of Western architecture in Japan.

The Second Age which followed the above was up to the Russo-Japanese war in 1904-5, which may be called the Imitation Period. Japanese architects were proud in those days of simply imitating what was shown them by their foreign masters. However, as seen from to-day, the imitation was a very primitive one, or rather blind imitation. The Japanese architectural world did not understand in those times what European and American architecture really meant, simply devoting themselves to superficially imitating foreign architectural productions and doing their utmost to produce buildings as near as possible resembling those of Western countries. They considered the more Europeanised buildings were, the better they were built, thus merely taking to imitation and nothing but blind imitation. So much the worse, those buildings of which they were so proud were clumsy from the outset. But still from such a primitive stage of the art the Japanese people, who have the born genius of imitation, made such gradual but steady progress that towards 1904-5 they were able to display splendid skill. The Akasaka Palace is one of the best examples of those imitation buildings, which are worthy to adorn the last page of the history of Japanese architecture in its Imitation Period. Imitation though it is, the building can be said to have achieved perfection of the art of architecture.

Then, the succeeding age that from the Russo-Japanese War (1904-5) to the World War (1914-9). During this period the Japanese architectural field experinced an unprecednted revolution. I can safely call it the Struggling Age. Why? Japan won the day over Russia in the war with her, and the self-respect of the people was greatly enhanced. On the other hand, scientific studies made marked progress so that people began to make dextrous devices and inventions, while they were now able to penetrate into the real facts regarding the Western sciences and arts, having brought home to them the non-necessity of simply imitating Europe and America blindly. They began to try hard to produce some originality in architecture. But hard they struggled, however, they were far from hitting upon any capital ideas, and the architectural productions in those days had some singular characteristics, not entirely copies of foreign styles.

For instance, as to the Tokyo Central Railway Station, which is one of the excellent productions of Mr. K. Tatsuno, *Kogaku-hakushi*, our beloved teacher of architecture, although some people praise it while others censure, we are able to detect in it at any rate signs of painstaking effort to strike out in a new departure, instead of merely copying European or American architecture. There are a lot of other examples of the originality displayed in Japanese architecture at that time.

As we justly call it the Struggling Age, we find in this period signs of more or less struggle among Japanese architects how to produce originality.

This period was followed by the Current Age, that is since the end of the Great War up to the present. Even if

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there has been a slight renovation in this period, this is still nothing but a prolongation of the Struggling Age in its wider sense. We may rather denominate it the Chaotic Age, rather than the Struggling Age. And the new age has presented itself as an effect of the chaotic condition of thought all over the world, indications of which were already perceived even before the War, reflecting and influencing the architectural realm.

In these circumstances, Japanese architecture is now in a buoyant condition, various ideals affecting it. When observed minutely, Japanese architecture seems to be under the control of more than ten different currents of thought which may be roughly classified into the following four principal kinds:—

Firstly, Science prevails. By this principle it is implied that architecture should at all events be dealt with by science: in other words, that science is omnipotent in architecture. According to this principle, therefore, even single column must be erected and a beam laid on it on the basis of rigid measurement; the height of a ceiling and the cubic contents of a room should be decided by mathematical calculation; in order to determine the size of a window the quantity of light shining into it should be accounted for. In a word, everything must be made in conformity with theoretical mathematical laws. Science recognises in this method the very ideal of architecture. In such circumstances, mathematical calculation is considered of the first importance, such a matter as beauty of forms being deemed of less importance.

Now, another principle entirely opposite to the above is what we may call Artisticism, which lies in treating architecture as a kind of cubic fine art and in making it an essential condition that any architectural products must be artistically beautiful; that unless based on this standpoint there is no real architecture. Accordingly, much stress is principally laid on history, and they adopt the method of devising novel styles suggested by ancient as well as modern historical products in the East and the west. In designing a column or a beam, it is considered from the artistic viewpoint, such as that it is awkward to lay a beam too high or it is out proportion to have a column too high. In accordance with this principle, Artisticism, the first thing to be taken into consideration is fine art, while mathematical theory is considered as of less importance although it is not entirely ignored.

The third principle is efficiency. This principle advocates that architecture should start from human life itself, far from being decided by mathematical theories or artistic designs; that the most ideal building affords the most convenience to the human beings using it, at the lowest possible price and in the most efficient manner. Needless to say, this principle does not necessarily ignore science or fine art. But the main point lies in taking efficiency into consideration, first of all.

The fourth and last principle of present day architecture maintains that the essence of architecture is its substance, and this may, therefore, be called Substantism. It is difficult to explain here what is meant by "substance." But, simply speaking, this principle makes it the fundamental condition that the architect expresses his subjective idea by grasping the very substance of the work he is doing, considering the question of building materials, structure, fine art and efficiency as simple ramifications of "substance," from which he should start. In short, this principle is a rather complicated philosophical consideration as regards architecture.

Besides the above four principles, there seems to exist another principle, apparently somewhat eclectic. At any rate, the ideas entertained by the Japanese architects of to-doy are very diverse, and all these have been traditionally transplanted from Europe. Although there may be found, more or less, ideas of their own initiative, Japanese architects have, fundamentally speaking, unconsciously imported ideas suggested by the European and American masters.

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The Restoration of the Capital

By H. NAGATA

ex-Mayor of Tokyo.

WHEN I reflect upon the last year on the first anniversary of the vast catastrophe that occurred in September, 1923, I cannot help feeling sometimes that the one year passed away very swiftly and at other times as if it were five or ten years ago that the earthquake shocked us. This is because we have been occupied so busily with many events, that we could hardly notice the time passing away.

The Cabinet, for instance, changed three times during one year, and the policy of capital restoration was altered to some extent whenever the government changed. During this time I, as Mayor of Tokyo, felt as if a long time had elapsed since the calamity, because I have been confronted with hardships which cannot be imagined by others.

At the very moment of the first shock I was sitting in the Mayor's office having a conversation with members of the Municipal Council. When the catastrophe occurred we did not expect at first such a serious consequence. The only thing which struck me like lightning at the very moment was the fear of the City water supply being suspended, as we had such an experience just three years ago when an earthquake shook the city. Report after report told us that the damage was greater and greater. Until I was able to know where the seismic centre was I was cold with fear, because I thought of the immensity of the national calamity it would be if the seismic centre were in Central Japan with still such great damage in Tokyo. So I signed with relief when I was told that the centre of the disturbance was in Kanto, the Eastern district. My second fear was lest tidal waves should ravage us, but fortunately it did not occur.

As to the earthquake itself, I did not fear it much, which can be proved by the fact that I did not run out of the Mayor's office at the moment, but I was utterly dumbfounded at the wide spreading of the conflagration which followed the earthquake. At first I did not expect such a big fire to devour the whole city, as the earthquake occurred in broad day light. However, as minor shocks continued all the citizens took refuge outdoors and were hardly able to take steps to extinguish the fires. We were unfortunate enough to lack means of putting the fires under control.

I was struck with horror when I looked from the window of the Mayor's office upon the fires which occurred here and there throughout the city and heard strange sounds of explosion, I did not know from what cause. In fact I had never before experienced in my life such a tragic feeling as on that occasion, while I ocupied a responsible position in society.

My third fear was about the question of food, when I was told at four o'clock the following morning by the Headman of the Fukagawa Ward, who had just arrived at the Municipal Office after overcoming many difficulties, that the rice warehouses in Fukagawa were all reduced to ashes and even the fodder warehouse of the War Office in the district was also destroyed. How we should get along for two or three days following the earthquake was the gravest question over which I cudgelled my brain. How lucky I was in those circumstances to be told that there still remained 10,000 bales of rice on the Sakuma-cho quay in Kanda, free from the fire.

After that problem of the citizens' food there arose those regarding their clothes and habitation, no less serious than the question of food. It proves the comparatively quick restoration of the city that we now find about 200,000 houses of temporary barracks promptly constructed.

What we cannot help being strongly reminded of is the warm sympathy shown not only by the other parts of the country but also by all foreign countries. We

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were given the lesson that the bright part of the human mind is expressed very frankly when human beings encounter an extraordinary calamity. For instance, America and China cannot be regarded as countries which invariably show us warm sympathy in peaceful times, but still the compassion and friendship shown by those two countries in the earthquake period, with the Japanese people, were indeed the very expression of the spirit of the purest human sentiment. On the occasion of this first anniversary of the catastrophe we must tender our heart-felt gratitude to various districts in our country, above all the city of Osaka, as well as all the friendly countries abroad, for the kindness and sympathy shown by them towards us.

With reference to the restoration of the Capital we are in course of activities with the expectation of completing the whole work within five years. For instance, as to the expenditure for the restoration, we are to be obtain the subsidy of its interest from the central government for five years. It is also the case in the reconstruction of the primary school buildings.

Now tracing back the effect of the reconstruction work, about seventy per cent of houses are annually rebuilt. We have to do painstaking work for four years from now in order to achieve our end of the city's restoration. The fundamental task is to carry out quickly the readjustment of sections into which the City is divided. It was inevitable that there occurred some controversies at first. Now we have attained the demarcation of sixty-six sections. At first it was our plan to devide the city into sixty-five, but in conformity with the desire of the citizens living on the Sumida River district we have added on more.

It seems in Yokohama that in spite of the eager desire of the municipal authorities to increase the extent of sections to be marked out and readjusted they are unable to realise this on account of the insuffiiency of the budget. In Tokyo, on the contrary, it is fortunate enough for us that we have been able to go on through the readjustment of the sections of all the devastated area.

Within the extent of the sections in the jurisdiction of the Capital Restoration Bureau, late this autumn the work of the removal of houses will be commenced, while within the jurisdiction of the munipical authorities the removal work will be set about in January next year. The larger part of this removal work will be completed within the first half of the year and until the end of next year all the work is to be finished, and this period can be further reduced through the efforts of the citizens.

The first obstacle in the way of the readjustment of the city demarcation was the shortage of able experts. We have collected throughout the country those who are well experienced in the readjustment of arable land, and to supplement them we have been training experts by giving them the knowledge necessary to section re-adjustment. Therefore it is undeniable that the work did not make such progress as we had expected. On the other hand, there was some difficulty in securing the understanding of the citizens for the demarcation. To-day there is no short-age of able experts while all the citizens understand very well the work of readjustment, and it is high time now for us to establish a solid foundation for the stability of the city life by completing the work of readjusiment as soon as possible.

I think it is most important for us to work always with resolution similar to that we had in the three or four days after the earthquake last year. So long as we do not forget how balls of unhulled rice taste the steady development of Greater Tokyo will be realised. And the more we forget the taste of those rice balls we ate soon after the calamity the more unsound the city restoration will be. Not merely during our life time but until the generation of our grandsons we should remember that horrible day., September lat of last year, and observe its anniversary as a day for self-reflection and meditation, forever.

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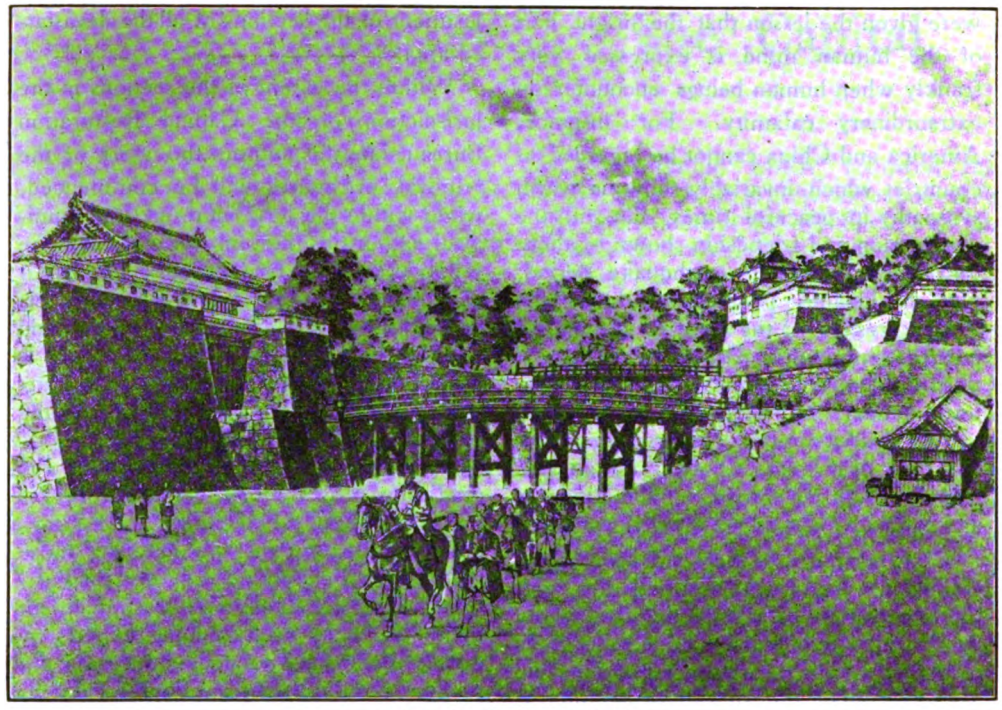
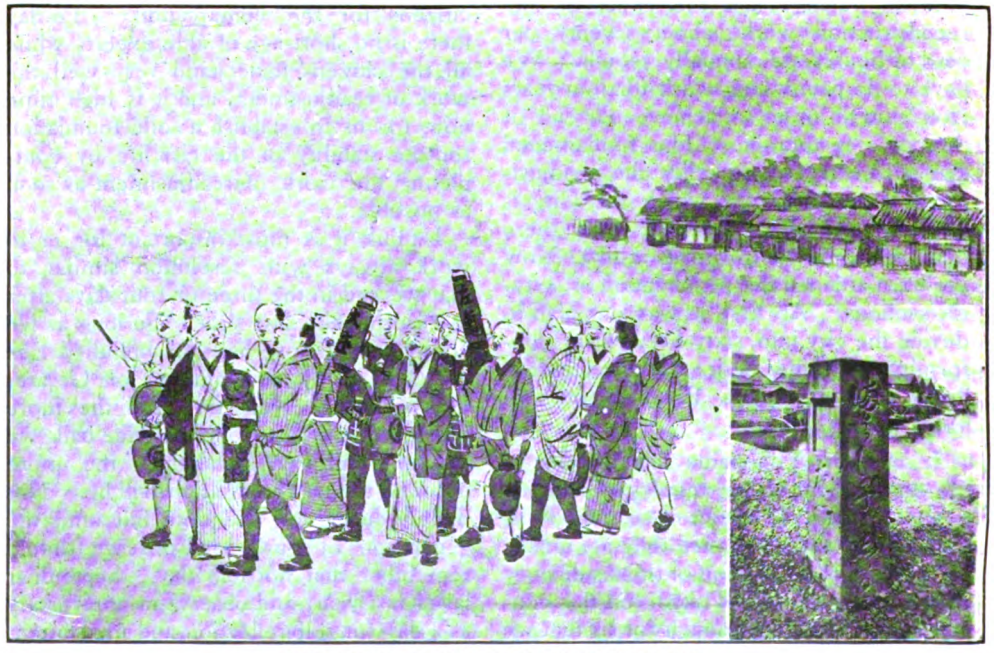


THE DOUBLE-BRIDGE.
The view is of the entrance to the Yedo Castle (now the Tokyo Imperial Palace) and the wooden bridges leading to it. The inner and higher bridge was the so-called "Niju-bashi" (Double-Bridge), which means a bridge built over a bridge.



THE SEARCH FOR STRAY CHILDREN.
In olden days, stray children were searched for by their parents, tutors and neighbours from street to street towards evening. They called out the children's names and rang bells or beat drums to attract their attention as they went through the streets. The stone in the right corner of the picture is a stray child guide.

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Remains of the Yedo Period

Stray Child Stones.

THREE of the so-called stray child stones are left from the Yedo period one in front of the Nio-mon of the Asakura Kanzeon Shrine, one in the precincts of the Yushima Tenjin Shrine, Hongo, and one at a corner of the Ikkoku-bashi, Nihonbashi. They are about 1 foot square and about 5 feet in length. That at the Ikkoku-bashi was erected in February in the 4th year of Ansei (1857). On the front of the stone are inscribed in *kana* the wards *Mayoigo-no-shirube* (Guide for Stray Children).

In the upper part of the right and left sides is a hollow 6 inches in width, 9.5 inches in length and 12 inches in depth. The left one is for "Answers" and the right for "Inquiries" as stated under each. At the back is inscribed the date of erection and the name of the donor. The searcher for a stray child put down on a sheet of paper the name, age, appearance and clothes and other features of the child and pasted it in the hollow for "Inquiries", and one knowing the whereabouts of a stray child noted its name, age and other particulars on a piece of paper and pasted it in the follow for "Answers."

Information about lost children was thus exchanged in olden days.

The oldest stray child stone is the one in the precincts of the Yushima Shrine and was set up in the Kayei era (1848-1853) by an artist, Kisho Ayaoka, who was very compassionate and fond of children. It is 1 foot 2 inces in width, 4 inches in breadth and 4 feet 11 inches in height. Similar stones were later erected in different places in Yedo, and the number once reached 10, of which 3 are left intact.

When the means of communication were primitive, the people had no better method to resort to for finding their stray children than to rely upon such a roundabout may. Besides, their families, tutors and others searched in parties for stray children from street to street, calling out their names and ringing bells and beating drums from the evening; to late at night and in the daytime, they went round to the stray child stones to look for news. This search in the streets was continued for a few evenings, after which the matter was reported to the *Machi-bugyo* (the Governor). In most cases, these children were delivered to the *Jishin-ban*, and protected there until their parents were found.

The "Niju-bashi"

or Double Bridge, is well known to the Japanese people as the one built over the moat of the Imperial Palace, Tokyo. It is strange, however, that every body speaking of it is not quits certain which of the bridges there is the Niju bashi. One points to the iron bridge, another to the stone bridge, and still another to both.

Both the iron and stone bridges were erected in the Meiji era to succeed the wooden bridges of the Yedo period, when the upper one was called the *Nishimaru-Gejo-bashi* and the lower one the *Nishimaru-Ote-bashi*. The *Niju-bashi* was another name for the former, where the present iron bridge stands.

The name *Niju-bashi* was given as it was practically double, in the pre-restoration period, although the bridge has no such feature to-day. The reason for the double bridge is explained by the fact that when it was first built in the 19th year of Keicho (1614), the moat was so deep in mud that the longest piles had to be driven in so deep that only 2 or 3 feet were left above water. This compelled the engineers to construct a flooring about 3 feet above water and then on this foundation to build another bridge of a suitable height. Of course, the lower bridge simply served as the support for the second bridge and offered no passage. This double bridge was consequently known as the *Nijubashi*. But the name is only a memory to-day, as the iron bridge of modern type has replaced the wooden structure.

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The Uyetsu Line

THE Uyetsu line of the Goverment railways has been completed by the building of the Nezuga-seki (Yamagata-ken) and Murakami (Niigata-ken) section for 25 miles, the whole line covering a distance of 130 miles between Akita (Akita-ken) and Murakami (Niigata-ken). On July 31st, the ceremony of opening the line was held.

The railway began to be built in 1916, agd it thus took eight years to complete. The line was divided into three building parts, the northern seetion of 45 miles between Akita and Kisakata, the central sechion of 56 miles between Kisakata and Nezuga-saki through Sakata and Tsuruoka and the southern section of 25 miles between Nezuga-seki and Murnkami. The total cost of construction amounted to 33,570,000 yen, or 275,000 yen per mile average.

At not a few points, the works were very hard, and the hardest was between Murakami and Nezuga-seki. On the section running along the coast of the Sea of Japan, it was necessary to make provision against landslips. There are 36 tunnels on the whole section. These involved an average cost of construction of 400,000 yen per mile. A great deal of difficulty was also experienced in building the line between Fukura and Kisakata, along the foot of Mount Tokai. The boring of the Oriwatari tunnel between Iwaya and Kemeda (Ugo) was particularly difficult, for it had to be cut throgh oil rock, which expanded when bored and a special machine for building seabottom tunnels in the West had to be used, until it was opened at the beginning of this year. The average grade of the whole line is 1/100, except in the above tunnel, where it is 1/60. All the tunnels are big enough to allow any size of trains in future.

The line is economically important in connecting the Niigata, Shonai and Akita plains, which are noted for the rich production of food and especially rice, and another feature is the exceptionlly fine scenery of the Japan Sea coast. The opening of this line has shortened the distance of travel by 156 miles, or 1/4 as compared with that through the main north-Eastern and Tokaido lines and will greatly relieve the congestion on the main north.Eastern and Ou lines.

When the Shimidzu tunnel is built and the Joetsu line is opened in a few years, wood, kerosene oil, rice and other products of the above three plains will be shipped more abundantly than at present to the Kwanto and Kwansai Districts by this line.

The line is rich in places of historical interest. On the Murakami-Nezugaseki section of 25 miles, the Noge, Kokuzo, Sangaku, Nabekura, Niiho, Takakura and Budo Mountains stand on the sea-coast. Trains run along the cliffs. The noted fine sceneries of Kaifu-ura and Sasagawa-nagare are on this section. The so-called dangerous place of *oyashirazu-koshirazu* lies on this sea-coast. The scenery of Sasagawa-nagare was prized by Miki Rai, a famous loyalist, as possessing as fine a view as Matsushima and as strange a view as the Ojika Peninsula. This scenery can be viewed through the train windows between Kuwagawa and Samukawa. Those who are not satisfied with a look from the train may alight at Kuwagawa and indulge in viewing the scenery on an excursion boat. We find further northward many noted fine scenes

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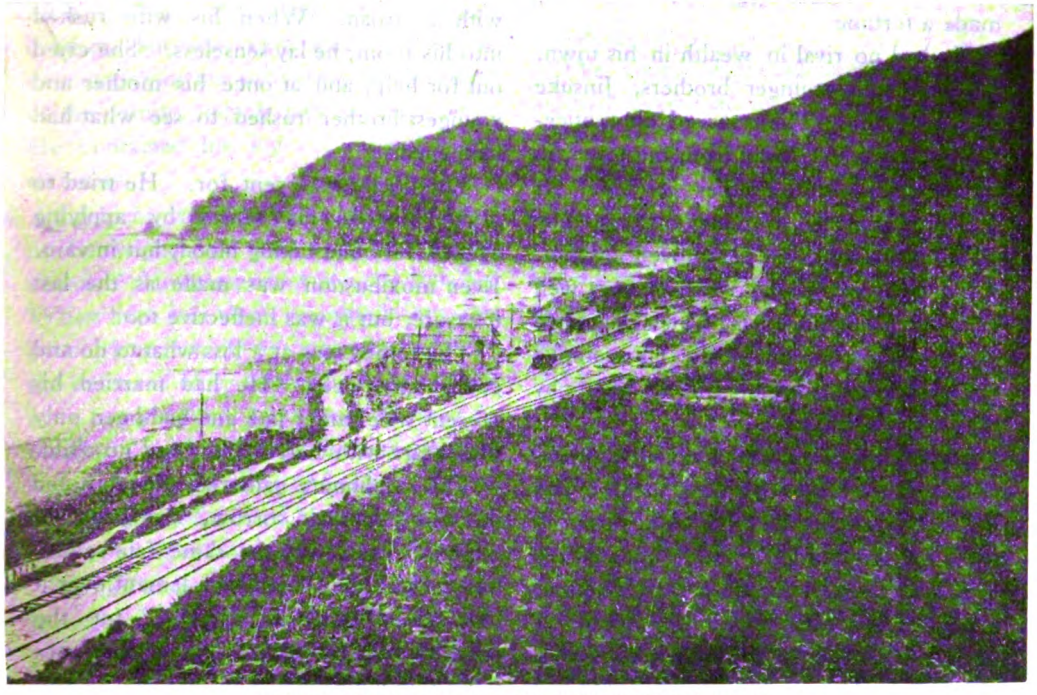
such as Hakotate-iwa at Katsuki, Benten-jima at Nezuga-seki, Tate-iwa at Atsumi, Yaotome at Mise, Shirayama-jima at Ynra, a view of Mount Tokai through this Shirayama-jima, Rakan-iwa at Fuki-ura, Daishi-saki of Kosuna-gawa, Kisa-kata, Michikawa and Shimohama coast. The water along here is shallow to a great distance out which makes it good for sea bathing.

Hot springs are found everywhere along the line, including the Yudagawa, Yuno-hama and Yuatsuumi springs in Shonai, the Matsuyama Hot Springs of Senami and the Takase, Yunosawa and Takanosue Springs on the upper part of the Ara River, the Oka Hot Springs near Tenno-shinden and the Murasugi, Imayeda and Deyu Springs near Suihara. Iitoyo, Tsuki and Tokai Mounts are a grand sight.



KUWAGAWA STATION ON THE UYETSU LINE.

This is a view of Kuwagawa Station on the Uyetsu Line as photographed at Murakami. The Kaifu-ura and the Sasagawa-nagare, which are unequalled for fine views, lie in this neighbourhood and can be seen to one's heart's content from the train. The August number has an article about this line.

SOUP FOR THE HEADLESS

In the resting-room of a theatre the wives of the actors were crowded, waiting for their husbands to finish. While they were having a chat, one of the actors passed by the room, and one of the wives who quickly detected him, asked:—

"Hullo, Gonzaemon! How soon you are to going home. What is my husband doing?" The actor replied: "He has just had his head cut off." The wife said: "Then, it is time to return home at once and warm the soup for our meal."

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Twilight Story

THE WORLD OF GREED

SONEWARAYA JINKURO was a wealthy resident in the town of Fuchu, in the Province of Echizen.

He was born of a poor family. He started as a petty retailer. He worked with all his might and with his eyes fixed only on money making. At last his labour was sufficently recompensed and he made a fortune.

He had no rival in wealth in his town. He had two younger brothers, Jinsuke and Jinshichi. They served apprenticeship in places far away from the town, in which their elder brother resided. As the elder suceeded in money making, they were called back and employed by him. For a time, everything went on very well in favour of Sonewaraya, which flourished more and more under the co-operative and peaceful management of its affairs by the three brothers.

In the meantime, the younger brothers found their purses growing heavy, and with it, Jinsuke, the youngest, began to show his cloven foot. He frequented the prostitute quarters in the port of Mikuni, Echizen Province, under the pretext of business. He was greatly attached to a girl there. He spent money lavishly and was soon hard up. He cooked the accounts of his shop and pocketed the money to pay for his dissipation. The eldest brother often admonished him, but he would not listen. He was taken up more and more with his pleasures, until he finally planned to ransom the prostitute. The eldest brother could no longer be put up with it, and turned him out.

Jinsuke could not support himself and was impoverished to beggary. His mother pitied him and secretely gave him money, with which he was able to hire a house in an alley.

One rainy day, Jinkuro, the eldest, thought over a hand of *shogi* (Japanese chess), which took his fancy. He found the solution after pondering for the whole day. He muttered to himself, "I have at last found it." Instantly, he fell down with a groan. When his wife rushed into his room, he lay senseless. She cried out for help, and at once his mother and youngest brother rushed to see what had happened.

The doctor was sent for. He tried to bring him to his senses by applying acupuncture and taking blood, but in vain. Even moxibustion was made as the last measure, but it was ineffective too.

The family was at a loss what to do and could only weep. He had married his present wife rather late and had been only four years with her. They had no child.

The neighbours gathered and consoled the family in their sorrow, saying that all human beings meet the same fate sooner or later and they need not lament over it but should pray to Buddha, for the decesed, which was the only virtuous action to be done.

They helped the family in preparing for the funeral. The corpse was laid in the centre of the room and a screen upside down was set round it, except in front, where a desk was put with a light and incense-sticks on it. Soon, there came a priest from the temple. He gave a post humous Buddhist name to the dead and wrote it on the tablet. There were banners and *tengai* (a silk parasol) brought from the undertaker's office. Water was warmed for washing the dead body. The

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kyokatabira (grave-clothes) was sewn and the *makura-dango* (dumplings) was made for offering to the dead by the family in tears.

The family were astonished at the visit of Jinsuke, the excluded second brother of the deceased, with a dignified air, accompanied by his eldest soon, Jintaro, aged 7, who wore a dress proper for the occation. Jinsuke took a seat in the centre of the unoccupied room. He did not look sorrowful at the death of his eldest brother, but was very glad in mind in expectation of his succession to the estate of the family, which had no legal heir. He contained his joy and looked round seriously.

Jinshichi, the youngest, came forward as he wiped his tears and said to the visitor, "How impudent you are Jinsuke. When have you been permitted into this house, from which you were excluded by the deceased elder brother? You are not in a position to come and behave so haughtily. None but I will be the successor to the family name and estate. If you wish to succeed, go and become reconciled with your elder brother."

"You know nothing", Jinhichi, cried in anger, "About a week ago, the eldest brother privately visited me and told me that he could not allow me to frequent his house openly for ten years to come, as my expulsion was generally known by the town people, but in the event of his untimely death, my son, Jintaro, might succeed to his family estate, as he had no heir. He stroked the child on the head as he told me so. You are rude to attack me. Have you forgotten by-gone days when you were a poor apprentice in a small shop at Tsuruga?"

Seeing this quarrel, the wife of the deceased left the room and hastily entered an inner room, in which she collected her clothes, utensils and other valueable articles and put them in her long chest, which she locked. She came back to the former room and having seated herself before the deceased's mother, started to cut off her chignon as all bereaved wives of the day did. The mother stopped her, saying, "I know well your virtue. You are right to grieve over the death of your husband. But you are still young. Just wait a little, as I have something to talk to you about".

The young wife did not accept the mother-in-law's advice. "No. I cannot think of leaving my hair as it is and of being married again", she replied as she cut it off.

In the meantime, the two brothers had had higher words and came to blows. The neighbours stopped it "Be silent!", they said, "You may settle the matter afterwards, it is wrong and scandalous to quarrel over such a thing without preparing for the funeral service".

Jinsuke, the second brother, was deaf to the advice and insisted on carrying the tablet (of the deceased) in the funeral service (as the family successor) and threatening to kill any body objecting to it. So saying, he took out a short sword.

Jinshichi, the third brother, also stood his ground persistently.

The two again came to high words, and the dumbfounded neighbours had no more courage to try to mediate. They turned to washing the deceased's body as a token of their sympathy for his premature death, when to their amazement, the deceased awoke with a cry. He had been in a state of coma. As water was poured into his mouth, he opened his eyes and looked round him, saying that he had had a long dream. He wandered at

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the presence of so many persons before him and was explained the details by the neighbours.

"I never promised to have Jinsuke as my successor. Where is he, who insists on his succession?", the master demanded.

Hearing this, Jinsuke, whose frand was exposed, left the house stealthily and in bewilderment and took to his heels with his son.

Jinkuro, the master, got up and searched for the key of the safe, which he alwats carried with him. "Where is the key?" he asked. "I have kept it myself", Jinshichi said blushingly as he took it out of his pocket. The master reprimanded him and spoke. "If you truly considered the interests of my house, why did you not hand the key to mother? If you heartily regretted my death, you ought not to have fonght with your elder brother on the question of succession". I cannot live with such a self-interested fellow.

The younger brother had no words of excuse, and went out dejectedly.

The master then looked quietly round and found some furniture missing. Among the lost furniture was an ink-case which he used to keep on his desk. It was valuable and he most prized it.

"Who has taken my ink-case?", he inquired. No one replied. Even the mother did not know. "Well", he said with determination, "If no one can reply, I'll make some one confess by closely examining all your possessions".

His young wife, who had been silent in a corner, confessed tremblingly and blushingly that the case had been put in her own chest. She left the room and brought it to her husband.

Jinkure looked into the chest and found in it many valuable things, which were unnecessary for a woman.

"It is quite unbecoming your sincere attitude with which you cut your chignon and vowed not to marry again to be so greedy", he reproved his wife, "I am disappointed at your unfeeling heart and cannot hope to live in peace and comfort with you. I'll divorce you".

The wife could not utter a word of apology, but left the house with a heavy heart.

Then, the master thanked the priest and neighbours for their help and sympathy.

He became disgusted with the world. He was conscious of the meaninglessness of his fortunc, wihch he had amassed for the best part of his life. He found no one but his mother who had mourned over his supposed death from the depth of her heart. He saw so much meanness in human life that even his brothers had rejoiced when they thought him dead. With his perception, he donated all his possessions to his Buddhist temple. It was his final decision to lead the rest of his life with the spirit of the dead.

He kept nothing with him but an amount of money, only enough to support his simple and lonely life. He shaved his head and entered the Buddhist priesthood. He always prayed to Buddha for future happiness with his mother.

Soon, he left the town of Fuchu for the neighbourhood of Kayeruyama, Omi Province, where he led a lonely and peaceful life with his mother.

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From the Japanese Press

Second Armament Education Conference.

Since this spring President Coolidge has been urged to convoke in America a second conference for discussing the reduction of armament among the Powers, by the Senate. The French Chamber of Deputies has recently ratified the London Convention, though we anticipated otherwise. As for Germany, even if her National Party is obstinate in opposing the Convention, it will be useless against American and English support. Thus, judging from present conditions, the convocation of the Second Armament Reduction Conference "on an appropriate occasion," as Mr. Coolidge put it, must be considered quite possible.

Since the Great War, whenever armament reduction is talked of, it is always America that has taken the lead in supporting it. We do not know, however, to what extent the United States in serious proposing to establish universal peace and enthusiastic to make all the Powers reduce their armaments. It may be due to her geographical situation and her national circumstances that America is able to make this kind of proposition for armament reduction. It does not seem that she is more eager than any other Power to maintain the World's peace and seek the reduction of armament. If she were really so, for what purpose did she try to alter the elevation of her naval guns without previos consultation with other Powers? From what motive did she hold a general mobilization for national defence? She may pretend that she is simply following the examples of other Powers. But, if America still has in mind the true significance of the motive of the Washington Conference she should have refrained from taking any milltary action resembling the expansion of armament. She ought to have checked any contest for naval power among the Powers, by warning such countries as might tay to expand their Navies in violation of the Naval Convention of Washington. But, in reality, America is always apt to do her utmost to expand military power throughout the whole conntry. It is to be admitted that there are some peace movements carried on in America in the face of such a warlike demonstration as the General Mobilization Day, but, despite this fact no one can deny that the majority of the present day Americans are inclined to militarism and believe in the Gospel of Force.

All the interested Powers have still many important problems common to them all which must be solved soon, in regard to Army and Navy. Such questious as the control of cruisers, poisonous gas, submarines, etc. are still left intact by the Washington Conference. It is supposed that Mr. Coolidge intends to solve those problems at the coming conference. But, so far as our observation goes the reduction of military force is more important nowadays than that of naval power. The European Powers have always been suffering from imminent bankruptcy from their keen competition in military armaments. However hard we may try to reduce naval power, we shall be unable forever to attain the object of armoment reduction in the sense of economic peace, uniess we put our hands to reducing military force. In this sense, does not the reduction of military armaments of Japan show a good examble to

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the World? How does America view this? In advance of the forthcoming convocation of the second international conference for the reduction of armaments, we ask the American Goverument and people to reconsider the matter. (*Jiji*, August 29th)

Future of Japan's Export Trade to Europe.

Although it is needless to say that the remarkable excess of imports in Japan's trade after the Great War has been principally due to the high prices of commodities, it is, on the other hand, due also to the decrease of purchasing power among the European peoples as a result of the uneasy and depressed condition of the economic field in Europe. But now that the London Convention has been concluded and the reparation question has been to some extent solved satisfactority, it is to be expected that European industry will recover through America's investment of capital in Germany and other investments for the purpose of economically rescuing Europe. America is now rather suffering from an excess of capital, and her investments in Europe will not only be a good remedy for the economic disease there but a method of curing the disease of excess of capital in America herself. For this reason the amount of American capital that will be invested in Europe may be larger than is imagined. Today all the countries of Europe are struggling under a lack of capital and shortage of raw materials for their industries. Not only is this the case in Germany but all over the continent. Under these circumstances, America's investments will be able to gradually restore the economic force of Europe by reanimating its natural resources, productive equipment and labour. Then the purchasing power will be increased also.

Japan's trade with Europe showed a considerable excess of exports during the War, that is 1905-9, reaching forty per cent oi the total sum of the excess of exports. But that was a phenomenon of the War. It can not be hoped for in peaceful times, and it is no wonder that after the War we have again had an excess of imports as we did before the War. The only thing on which we lay much stress is that the excess is too large.

From a survey of the trade returns, our import trade has not necessarily made any marked development. The extraordinary excess of imports has been caused by the slack condition of the export trade of Japan. In comparison with pre-War times, we have not realised any increase in exports to any of the European countries except to such neutral countries as Holland and Sweden, while those to England, France, Germany and Italy, which infuence the general condition of Japan's trade, have all decreased. From this it is easy to understand the small volume of Japanese exports to those great European countries. Admitting the faet already referred to, that the depression in our export trade to Europe is to be ascribed to the decrease in the purchasing power of Europeans, it must be a natural consequence of the gradual increase of that power, owing to the solution of the reparation question and others, that Japan's trade toward Europe will be stimulated and recovered. Some people seem to be of opinion that as Japan does not invest in Europe the impetus given to her trade by the recovery of the purchasing power of European countries will not by very marked. But, taking it for granted that Japan's export trade recovers to the level before the Great War, its total sum will reach about 300,000,000 yen an increase of at least 140,000,000 or 150,000,000 yen. Thus the domestic industry in sundries will make a steady but flourishing development, thanks to the restoration of the European economic condition. (*Diamond* September 1st).

Disturbances in China and Protection of Foreigners.

The Jiji of September 9 comments that the present situation seems to be favourable to the Chekiang Army, while Chng Tso-lin, Military Governor of Mukden, who was defeated in the Mukden-Chihli War two years ago, has ever since been preparing for revenge,

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and has made up his mind to participate in the present trouble. He has publicly declared war upon the Chihli Army under the pretext of Mukden being menaced by it. In this manner the Kiangsu-Chekiang War has caused the Chihli-Mukden War to break out afresh. The situation has been changed to the Chihli Party, the anti-Chihli Party being confronting one another.

In spite of thirteen years having elapsed since the Revolution, the internal disturbances have not been settled; the power of the central government has always been the prey of a powerful military clans; the interest of the people at large has been sacrificed to that of the militarists. We cannot but sympathise regarding such a miserable condition in the neighbouring state. According to what is reported from the front, the peaceful inhabitants in the war zone are placed in a dismal condition like that of a country invaded by an enemy from without, their houses being set on fire, being deprived of their property, or commandeered by the army.

But it is an internal disturbance in China after all, and no other contry has any right to interfere. The only thing about which we are afraid is the safety of the life and property of the foreign residents in China. The Chinese Government, of course, seems to be doing its best to protect them, and it should hold itself entirely responsible for that duty, now that it has taken the responsibility on itself by issuing an order to subdue Lu Ying-chang, Commander of the Chekiang Army. Particularly, as the war involves such places as Shaghai, Suchow and Nanking, where a considerable number of foreign residents are found, the Chinese Government's responsibility is all the heavier.

The disturbances which so frequently frequently occur in China are eloquent proof of the anarchic and disorderly condition of the Republic, and nothing does more serious harm to the credit of the country. Those gallant young men in the Wai-chiao-pu, who are fighting for recovery of the national prestige and promotion of China's position in international politics, must hesitate to be arrogant to other nations, when they reflect on the chastic condition within the country. Though the disturbances seem to be going to extend to a greater conflict between North and South, following that disgraceful incident last year at Lincheng, which caused international confidence in China to be lowered to a large extent, the Peking government which ought to be responsible for the trouble is unable to suppress the ambitious intrigues of the Chihli militarists, to whom it has at length surrendered. This is evidence of how powerless the Chinese central government is.

Can foreigners, then, entrust with safety their life and property to such a weak and good-for-nothing government? We are afraid that in the event of the undisciplined Chinese soldiers extending their brutal force over the foreign residents grave consequences will ensue. In this respect we warn both the Chihli and anti-Chihli Armies to be very careful and scrupulous.

Unification of Conditioning Exports.

Mr. Takahashi, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, says the *Miyako*, has decided to readjust and unify the conditioning of exports, with a view to preventing the production of crude goods, as one of the now steps to warden couraging and developing Japan's foreign trade. With that object in view, he is now making the Bureau of Industry in his department investigate with reference to articles to be conditioned.

Of the various kinds of articles for exportation, some are voluntarily inspected and conditioned by the respective guild of the manufactures, from the motive of maintaining the credit of their own products in the World's market. Some others are conditioned, in conformity with an ordinance of the Agriculture and Commerce Department, such as matches, glass ware, enamelled ware, braids for hats, hosiery, brushes of all kinds, toys, combs, pencils and pencie leads, cotton

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textiles, etc. On the other hand, fancy mattings, raw silk and rush mattings (for which the regulations for conditioning will soon be enforced) are conditioned by the State conditioning house, while silk textiles are conditioned by the respective prefectural office under the jurisdiction of which each article is produced. However, the existing regulations for conditioniing the above-enumerated articles are inadequate enough to be reformed in many respects, as they were hurriedly put into force during the Great War in order to meet the emergency.

Heretofore, it has been customary to limit the authority of conditioning to merely picking out inferior goods and absolutely prohibit the export of the disqualified articles but appropriate steps are to be taken to prevent such inferior goods from being manufactured while in the process of production in factories, because it has been found absolutely neces sary to suppress such goods prior to conditioning them.

In the meantime, the conditioning which has heretofore been practisd by the Associated Guilds will hereafter be transferred to the prefectural offices, while that hitherto carried on by the latter offices will be surrendered to the State Conditioning House. In this way, the system of export conditioning will be readjnsted and unified so as to contribute in no small degree toward promoting the development of foreign trade.

A conference was recently held in the Agricultural Bureau of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and matters concerning wheat and flour were discussed.

Imbiolio in China and Japan and the Powers.

The Jiji of September 14th comments that it is quite unexpected that it is rumoured recently that there are some Englishmen and Americans who advocate political intervention in China. One of the remarkable examples of such a view was found last year on the occasion of the Lincheng affair in which many foreigners were massacred. However, the recent disturbance in China is entirely different from the Lincheng affair in its character, as it is nothing but internal discord betweeen one militarist clan and another, having nothing direct to do with foreign interests. Therefore, under no pretext should any foreign Power be allowed to make intervention in China, unless the life and property of the foreign residents be in danger. Even if the present disturbance is extended throughout the nation which may cause a change in the balance of power of the Northern and Southern factions, the foreign powers could but be lookers-on. As it was America and England who enthusiastically upholded the sovereignity of China at the Washington Conference, it is quite unbelievaple that those Powers should act against the Washington Conference only three years after. Above all, as to the rumour that America is supporting Wu Pei-fu for the purpose of exterminating the anti-Chili Party, nobody will believe it. However, in view of the fact that there are remarkable signs of the English and American attitude being recently inclined to change in comparison with that during the Washington Conference, especially since the Lincheng affair which proved that China has no adequate autonomy, no wonder that a view in favour of intervention in China has begun to be held by some foreigners. To make bad worse, the Chinese civil war has all the more openly disclosed the disorder in that country and tends to lead to the danger of the foreign Powers intervention.

We hope that no Power will intervene in China's internal politics, refraining from any action which may aggravate her disturbances. As to Japan, her relationship with China has long been compared to the lips to the teeth. She has considered that her national existence is jeopardized in the event of any internal trouble in China. It might have been true in the past when some ambitions Western Powers were bold enough to make territorial aggression in China, but now that the international political condition of the Far East has been entirely changed there is no need for Japan to entertain any fear in connection with dis-

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turbances in the neighboring country. It goes without saying that Japan should maintain a cool and indifferent attitude toward China, holding rigorously to her policy of absolute non-intervention.

As some Americans are not infrequently rumoured to be secretly affording assistance to Wu Pei-fu's Party, so is Japan unfortunately misrepresented as showing particular good will to the anti-Chili faction. With reference to such groundless rumours, the Japanese Government ought to be very careful to dispel them at any cost. While Japan should prevent any other Power from siding with one or another party in the internal struggle, she should, in the meantime, be careful not to intervene herself.

The Tokyo Nichi Nichi of September 13th says that not merely is Japan's non-intervention policy towards China her already accomplished policy but it is a motto of the Paciffc Policy of the Powers declared by them at the Washington Conference. Despite of that, certain Powers are lately rumoured to be trying to uphold the principle of an international mandate in China or that of autonomy of each province in that country. One of those Powers is rumoured to have advanced so far as to be secretly helping one of the belligerent parties in order to bring about an entire change in the general trend of China's politics. It seems that there is some ground for these rumours, according to the Nichi Nichi. The paper does not necessarily urge upon the Japanese Government to change its policy in view of such rumours regarding foreign Powers' intervention, but it is of opinion that Japan should be very careful not to be left behind by any other Power, because she is in such a close position to China that the latter's interests directly concern her. Japan should on no account leave any of the powers to encroach upon China's integrity and interests, by ticking to her policy of non-intervention.

New Germano Japanese Commercial Treaty.

Although the Versailles peace treaty, says the Tokyo Nichi Nichi of September 12th, forced Germany to be under unilateral obligations in her commercial relations with the Allies, she has now entirely got rid of these obligations. In other words, the allied Powers have now to enter into new trade relationships with Germany and revise their commercial treaties with her. Actually England, France, Italy, Belgium and others have already set about preliminary or informal negotiations with her for the purpose of concluding a new commercial treaty. Of those Powers Italy will perhaps be the earliest in realising the restoration of trade relations with Germany to their normal condition.

As for Japan, she is too timid to open commercial negotiations with Germany, separately because it is always her policy to consul tthe pleasure of the superior Powers. However, we are told that the Japanese Government is now hurrying to take up preliminary negotiations as early as possible. On the part of Germany, she also is desirous to get rid of her unilateral oblinations vis-a-vis the other Powers as soon as she can, and there is ample reason to anticipate that her new commercial treaties will be concluded rather earlier than expected. Particularly now that the economic condition of Germany has become stable enough to enable her to conclude a permanent commercial treaty, thanks to the recent solution of the reparation question at the London Convention, the Japanese government will have to conduct negotiations with her with a view to concluding a commercial treaty of a permanent character. Observing, now, the existing trade relations between Japan and Germany, it was by virtue of the old treaties (commercial treaty and special mutual convention regarding customs tariffs) that a tariff convention has existed with reference to the following goods traded in between Germany and Japan:—

Imports to Japan:—Leather ware, chemicals and drugs, artificial indigo, dyestuffs, woollen goods, paper, gas kerosine and steam engines, dynamos.

Exports to Germany:—Vegetable wax, Japanese isinglass, habutae, braids, fancy mattings, buttons, lacquer ware.

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As to the proportion between the exports from Japan and the imports from Germany, it is extremely partial, when one compares the returns of the two years preceding the Great War with those four years after the War. The comparison is as follows:—(The unit of the figures is 1,000 yen).

	1912	1913	1920	1921	1922	1923
Export.	13,487	13,131	1,064	2,413	3,724	3,392
Import.	61,075	63,394	15,116	47,713	110,622	120,242

As shown in the above table, imports from Germany have recently increased to twice those before the War, while the declining condition of the export trade of Japan to Germany is indeed beyond comparison. So long as the Japanese trade to Germany remains in such a depressed condition the conclusion of a new tariff convention will be in favour of Germany. It can be expected that the Japanese Government will employ various means of mitigation in favour of the Japanese trade, such as bar or restriction upon some German goods, a high import tariff on luxuries and others but it is not improbable that the economic restoration of Germany and the pouring into our country of German products will be a menace to our industrial development. For instance, according to recent news, traders are making petitions to the Government in Belgium that the latter establish a protective tariff for the purpose of preventing German goods pouring into the country in future. This example should be followed by Japan. Instead of merely fawning on the superior countries, the Japanese government ought to commence preliminary negotiations with Germany for concluding a new German-Japanese Commercial Treaty.

The new American Ambassador to Japan.

The *Tokyo Nichi Nichi* of September 2nd observes that Mr. Bancroft, the newly appointed American ambassador to Japan is said to have no special interest in the Oriental question, having had no career as a diplomat. But it has nothing to do with us, Japanese, whether he has had no experience or otherwise in diplomatic affairs. Nay, it may be rather better for us to receive an inexperienced diplomat as ambassador than a professional one, because the former is far better qualified in bringing about more friendly relations between the two countries. Mr. Cyrus Woods, the former American ambassador in Tokyo, was a typical example, of an American representative in this country who made the best impression on the Japanese people.

Whether Mr. Bancroft is pro-Japanese or anti-Japanese does not matter in the least, the only thing we desire being that he will have resolution strong and preparation perfect enough to solve all the pending problems between Japan and America on the solid basis of justice and fair play. Feigned diplomacy is no means to cement friendly relationship between the two countries.

Now that America has already appointed her representative to Japan, the Japanese Government will have to nominate a successor to Mr. Hanihara. Who will be the right man in the right place, we can't tell. In our country where an envoy to a foreign country is selected only among those actually in diplomatic service it is very difficult to find a suitable and able diplomat to be sent to the United States. In America the first qualification as representative accredited to a foreign state is that he be able. In Japan, on the contrary, his official career is the foremost condition in preference to his ability. This is the reason why it is almost impossible to us to find a very suitable diplomat. We are indeed tired of good-for-nothing professional diplomatists. Behold our diplomatic failures towards America and China. In consideration of the American method of selecting diplomats, will not the Japanese Government try to find an able man who can work, who is courageous and who is magnanimous, as ambassador? Nothing would be better for cleansing the Augean stables of Japanese diplomacy.

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The Opportunity for Promoting the Credit of the League of Nations.

The fact that both the English and French premiers were present at the general assembly of the League of Nations this year surely contributes to raising the credit of the League. On the occasion of The Chequers Conference in June the two premiers promised to uphold the dignity of the League of Nations. When we look at the list of the representative of the Powers at the League of Nations assembly, we find many first rate personages, which surely ensures brilliant success.

In spite of the restriction of armament being provided for by Articles 8 and 9 of the Covenant, no remarkable results have so far been achieved in putting those articles into force, because America has not joined the League while France has not showed any good will to this provision. Although Lord Robert Cecil's so-called mutual help covenant introduced to the Armaments Reduction Commission composed of military men, politicians and scholars was made the subject of discussion by the respective governments of the allied Powers, in substance the plan was nothing but a sort of defensive alliance or armed peace, quite contradictory to the reduction of armaments. For such a reason England has already rejected the proposition on the basis of her intention of realising a permanent peace of the World by means of the reduction of armaments. This attitude of England is quite reasonable, in view of her present Labour Cabinet, whose ideal lies in the permanent peace of the World. France, on the contrary, is still maintaining this plan of mutual help by means of military power for the solution of the question of the guarantee of her national safety.

Although France still supports in that manner a policy basing the guarantee of national safety on military strength, it is evident that M. Herriot is of the same opinion as Mr. McDonald, to try to contribute towards the peace of Europe, and we sincerely hope that there will be found a compromise between France and England in regard to the realization of the reducation of armaments. That M. Herriot desires to place relations between France and Germany on the foundation of France's thorough understanding of the German Republic, is evidenced by the views he has recently expressed. So, we are of opinion that it is in conformity with his personal view to place the safety of the nation not upon the security of armaments but upon mutual confidence and reliance between the French and German peoples. We hope that at the present assembly of the League of nations France will abandon her adherence to the hackneyed idea of armed peace and contribute to the rational solution of the question of the guarantee of her national safety as well as to the establishment of conditions favourable to the realisation of the policy of armament reduction. By so doing the presence of the premiers of both countries at the assembly of the League of Nations will have been made of some singnificance in promoting the credit of the League. If, on the contrary, no concrete convention is reached in regard to the most important questions, the guarantee of national safety and the reduction of armaments the attendance of the two prime ministers will end in being mere pomp and parade; the League of Nations will only to the world how incapable it is.

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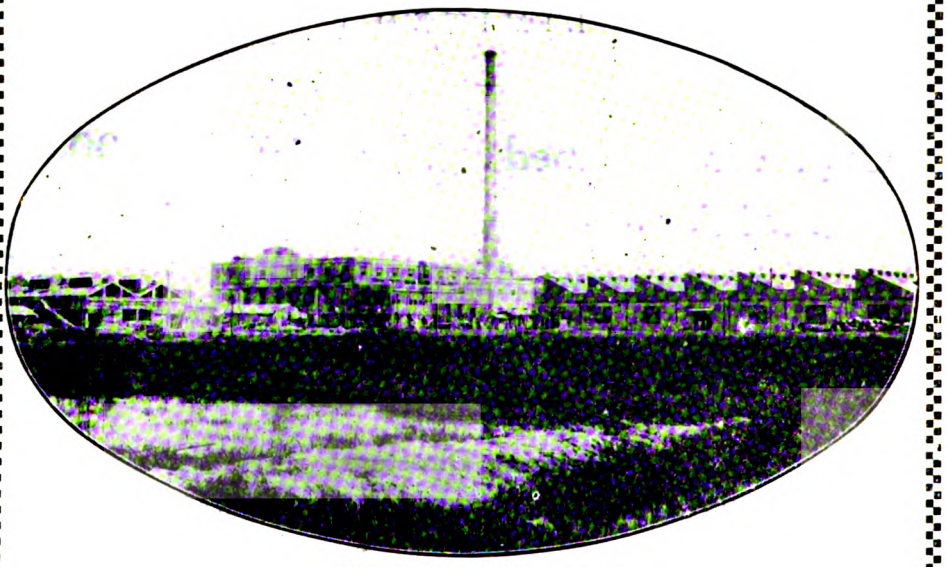

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大正十三年十月十二日　印刷納本
大正十三年十月廿五日　發行

（第十五卷　第一號）

發行兼編輯人　坂上一雄　小石川區原町一四

印刷人　杉崎國太郎　東京市芝區愛宕下町二ノ四

印刷所　太平洋社印刷所　東京市芝區愛宕下町二ノ四

發行所　東京市麹町區内幸町一ノ六　ジヤパン、マガジーン社　電話青山三六七〇番　振替東京三〇三〇一

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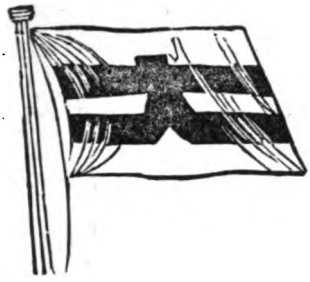

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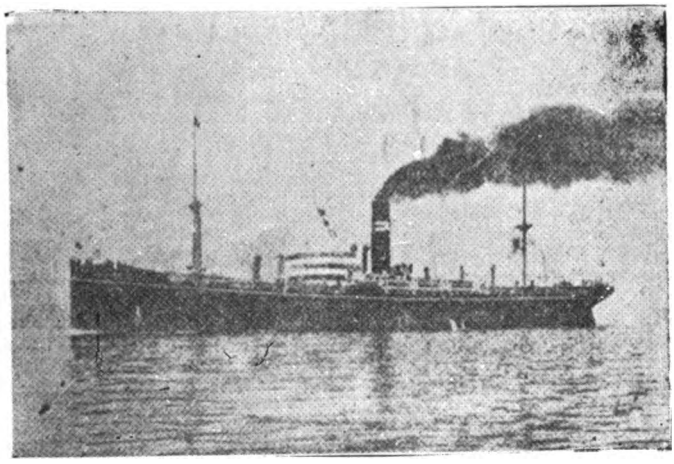

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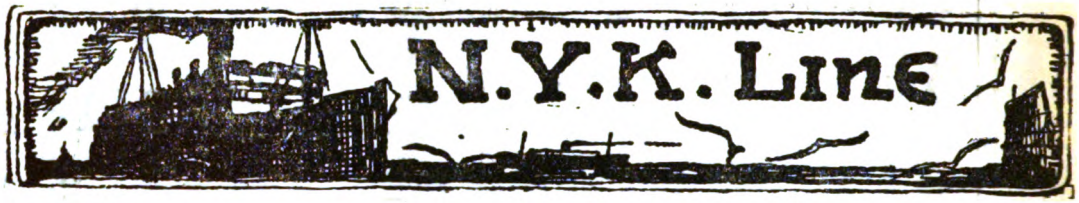

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South American Line	Every other month
Far East-New York Line via Panama	Monthly
Japan-Australia Line	Every four weeks
Japan-Bombay Line	Fortnightly
Japan-Calcutta Line	Fortnightly
Calcutta-New York Line	Monthly
Japan-Java-Calcutta Line	Monthly
Calcutta-South American Line	Occasionally
South Sea Islands Line	Monthly
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Head Office: Tokyo, Japan

Entered as second-class matter at the Loss Angeles, Cal., Post Office.

大正十三年十月廿五日發行(毎月一回廿五日發行)

大正十三年十月十二日印刷納本

ジヤパン・マガジーン　第十五巻　第一號

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